## Message Text

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PAGE 01 NATO 08659 101020Z ACTION SS-25

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**EXDIS** 

MILITARY ADDRESSES HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: NATO, NPG, MNUC

SUBJECT: SEPTEMBER 13 NPG CONSULTATIONS

REF: STATE 214212

1. I HAVE NOW TALKED SEPARATELY WITH SYG LUNS AND DUTCH AMBASSADOR HARTOGH REGARDING DUTCH DESIRE, SHARED BY SOME OTHER NPG MEMBERS, TO HAVE FOLLOW-UP MEETING TO SESSION SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 13 CONSULTATIONS. I EXPLAINED THAT WE UNDERSTOOD DESIRE DUTCH AND PROBABLY OTHERS TO OFFER COMMENTS SUBSEQUENT TO SEPTEMBER 13 MEETING, BUT STRESSED INFEASIBILITY OF HAVING SEPTEMBER 13 TEAM STAY ON OR RETURN FOR SUBSEQUENT CONSULTATIONS. I INDICATED WASHINGTON'S PREFERENCE FOR RECEIPT OF COMMENTS ON BILATERAL BASIS EITHER HERE, OR IN WASHINGTON, OR IN CAPITALS.

2. LUNS AND HARTOGH HAD ALREADY TALKED BETWEEN THEMSELVES AND BOTH EXPRESSED STRONG DESIRE FOR BRIEF FOLLOW-UP NPG SECRET

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MEETING. LUNS SAID HE UNDERSTOOD FULLY THAT IT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE FOR EXPERTS TO RETURN, BUT HE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE TO FOLLOW USUAL PROCEDURES AND WOULD PLAN TO CONVENE NPG MEETING TO ENABLE ANY GOVERNMENTS THAT WISHED TO OFFER COMMENTS TO DO SO. NEITHER HE NOR HARTOGH SAW ANY REASON TO REQUIRE PRESENCE OF EXPERTS SINCE THEIR MISSION WOULD HAVE BEENFULFILLED WITH

PRESENTATION ON SEPTEMBER 13. SUBSEQUENT MEETINGS WOULD BE FOR US DELEGATION TO RECEIVE REPLIES AND COMMENTS.
LUNS VIEW PARALLELED THAT OF HARTOGH THAT IT WOULD BE MORE HELPFUL TO DUTCH GOVERNMENT TO BE ABLE TO SAY THERE HAD BEEN A SECOND MEETING IN NATO FRAMEWORK AT WHICH DUTCH VIEWS HAD BEEN FULLY PRESENTED.

3. IN DEMARCHE REPORTED SEPTELS, DUTCH DCM BUWALDA STRESSED STRONG DUTCH OPPOSITION TO FOLLOWING UP THROUGH BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS AND DUTCH DESIRE TO HEAR COMMENTS OF OTHER ALLIES IN MULTILATERAL MEETING FOLLOWING SEPTEMBER 13 CONSULTATION. HE SAID DUTCH RECOGNIZE THAT CONSULTATIONS SHOULD BE FINISHED PROMPTLY, I.E., ABOUT ONE WEEK AFTER SEPTEMBER 13, SO THAT THE US WOULD BE IN A POSITION TO MAKE DECISIONS. BUWALDA ALSO SAID DUTCH LACK ADEQUATE INFORMATION, AND HOPED THE US WOULD PROVIDE FURTHER DATA TO THE ALLIES, INCLUDING UNCLASSIFIED INFORMATION FOR USE IN BRIEFING PARLIAMENTS. BENNETT

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